

Serial No.:09/401,408

Attorney Docket: 2455-4628

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please REPLACE claims 1 and 7, as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for coordinating RF use in primary and adjunct wireless systems which are layered in a common geographic area, the adjunct system shielded from interference from the primary system, and which share the same the same RF spectrum, wherein the adjunct system includes adjunct base stations defining respective adjunct wireless cells and serving adjunct mobile stations located within the respective adjunct cell and the primary system includes primary base stations defining respective primary wireless cells and serving primary mobile stations located within the primary wireless cell, comprising:

monitoring all RF channels by the adjunct system and partitioning them into two sets, a set of channels likely to be interference-free and a set of noisy channels;

forming a pool of interference-free channels for use by all adjunct base stations;

assigning channels to adjunct cells from the interference-free set; and

grouping interference-free channels left unassigned as back-up channels in case the assigned channels become noisy.

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7. (Amended) A system for coordinating RF use in primary and adjunct wireless systems which are layered in a common geographic area, the adjunct system shielded from interference from the primary system, and which share the same the same RF spectrum, wherein the adjunct system includes adjunct base stations defining respective adjunct wireless cells and serving adjunct mobile stations located within the respective adjunct cell and the primary system includes primary base stations defining respective primary wireless cells and serving primary mobile stations located within the primary wireless cell, comprising:

an RF monitor in an adjunct base station monitoring all RF channels and partitioning them into two sets, a set of channels likely to be interference-free and a set of noisy channels;

a processor in the adjunct station forming a pool of interference-free channels for use by all adjunct base stations;

said processor assigning channels to adjunct cells from the interference-free set; and

said processor grouping interference-free channels left unassigned as back-up channels in case the assigned channels become noisy.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the claims in the application are requested.

Claims 1-14 are in the case. Claims 1-2, 4, 7-8, 10, 13-14 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as anticipated by USP 6,212,386 B1 to S. Briere et al. issued April 3, 2000, filed June 30, 1998 (Briere). Claims 3, 5-6, 9, 11-12 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Briere in view of USP 6,191,906 B1 to B.D. Buch issued February 20, 2001 and filed May 6, 1999 (Buch). USP 6,047,176 B1 to M. Sakamoto et al. issued April 4, 2000, filed December 30, 1996 (Sakamoto) and USP 5,708,975 to M. Heiskari et al. issued January 13,